REFERENCE TITLE: secondary property taxes; limits

State of Arizona House of Representatives Forty-eighth Legislature First Regular Session 2007

HB 2656

Introduced by Representatives Yarbrough: Adams, Murphy, Reagan

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-302, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING SECTION 15-481, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2006, CHAPTER 44, SECTION 2 AND CHAPTER 217, SECTION 4; REPEALING SECTION 15-481, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2006, CHAPTER 354, SECTION 12; AMENDING SECTIONS 42-17001, 42-17003, 42-17004, 42-17005, 48-3620, 48-3903, 48-4023 AND 48-5805, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; BLENDING MULTIPLE ENACTMENTS; RELATING TO SECONDARY PROPERTY TAXES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

- j -

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 15-302, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

15-302. Powers and duties

- A. The county school superintendent shall:
- 1. Distribute all laws, reports, circulars, instructions and forms which he may receive for the use of school officers.
 - 2. Record all official acts.
- 3. Appoint governing board members of school districts to fill all vacancies, but the term of the appointment shall be until the next regular election for governing board members, at which time a successor shall be elected to serve the unexpired portion of the term. The county school superintendent may, if he deems it in the best interest of the community, MAY call a special election to fill the vacancies. If an election is called, the newly elected member shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired portion of the term.
- 4. Make reports, when directed by the superintendent of public instruction, showing matters relating to schools in his county as may be required on the forms furnished by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 5. Have such powers and perform such duties as otherwise prescribed by law.
- 6. On or before October 1 of each year, make a report to the superintendent of public instruction showing the amount of monies received from state school funds, special school district taxes and other sources, the total expenditures for school purposes and the balance on hand to the credit of each school district at the close of the school year.
- 7. Contract with the board of supervisors for the board of supervisors to conduct all regular school district elections.
- 8. Be responsible, in cooperation with the governing boards and the board of supervisors, for all special school district elections.
- 9. Maintain teacher and administrator certification records of effective dates and expiration dates of teachers' and administrators' certificates in compliance with guidelines prescribed in the uniform system of financial records for those school districts for which the county school superintendent is the fiscal agent. The county school superintendent shall not draw a warrant in payment of a teacher's, substitute teacher's or administrator's salary unless the teacher, substitute teacher or administrator is legally certified during the fiscal year in which the term for payment is demanded.
- 10. Notify a school district three years before the expiration of a revenue control limit override that the school district's budget must be adjusted in the final two years of the override pursuant to section 15-481, subsections $\stackrel{\textbf{P}}{}$ Q and $\stackrel{\textbf{Q}}{}$ R, if the voters do not approve another override.

- 1 -

- 11. In collaboration with the department of education and other state agencies, provide assistance to school districts and charter schools on the use of student data, staff development, curriculum alignment and technology to improve student performance.
- 12. Assist schools in meeting yearly adequate progress goals as defined by criteria established by the state board of education and implemented by the department of education.
- B. At the request of school districts and charter schools, the county school superintendent may provide discretionary programs in addition to the programs prescribed in subsection A OF THIS SECTION.
- C. The county school superintendent may provide the services prescribed in subsections A and B OF THIS SECTION in the county or jointly with two or more counties pursuant to title 11, chapter 7, article 3.
- D. Each county school superintendent may establish an advisory committee to the office of the county school superintendent.
- Sec. 2. Section 15-481, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 44, section 2 and chapter 217, section 4, is amended to read: 15-481. Override election; budget increases; notice; ballot; effect

A. If the A proposed budget of a school district exceeds the aggregate

budget limit for the budget year, AT LEAST NINETY DAYS BEFORE THE PROPOSED ELECTION the governing board shall order an override election to be held not less than ninety days from the date of the order ON THE FIRST TUESDAY FOLLOWING THE FIRST MONDAY IN NOVEMBER AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-204, SUBSECTION B, PARAGRAPH 1, SUBDIVISION (d) for the purpose of presenting the proposed budget to the qualified electors of the school district who shall by a majority of those voting either affirm or reject the budget. In addition, the governing board shall prepare an alternate budget which does not include an increase in the budget of more than the amount permitted as provided in section 15-905. If the qualified electors approve the proposed budget, the governing board of the school district shall follow the procedures prescribed in section 15-905 for adopting a budget that includes the authorized increase. If the qualified electors disapprove the proposed budget, the

governing board shall follow the procedures prescribed in section 15–905 for

adopting a budget that does not include the proposed increase or the portion

of the proposed increase that exceeds the amount authorized by a previously

approved budget increase as prescribed in subsection $\stackrel{\mathbf{P}}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Q}$ of this section.

B. The county school superintendent shall prepare an informational report on the proposed increase in the budget and a sample ballot and, at least forty days prior to the election, shall transmit the report and the sample ballot to the governing board of the school district. The governing board, upon receipt of the report and the ballot, shall mail or distribute the report and the ballot to the households in which qualified electors reside within the school district at least thirty-five days prior to the election. Any distribution of material concerning the proposed increase in

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the budget shall not be conducted by children enrolled in the school district. The report shall contain the following information:

- 1. The date of the election.
- 2. The voter's polling place and the times it is open.
- 3. The proposed total increase in the budget which exceeds the amount permitted pursuant to section 15-905.
- 4. The total amount of the current year's budget, the total amount of the proposed budget and the total amount of the alternate budget.
- 5. If the override is for a period of more than one year, a statement indicating the number of years the proposed increase in the budget would be in effect and the percentage of the school district's revenue control limit that the district is requesting for the future years.
- 6. The proposed total amount of revenues which will fund the increase in the budget and the amount which will be obtained from a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district for the first year for which the budget increase was adopted.
- 7. The proposed amount of revenues which will fund the increase in the budget and which will be obtained from other than a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district for the first year for which the budget increase was adopted.
- 8. The dollar amount and the purpose for which the proposed increase in the budget is to be expended for the first year for which the budget increase was adopted.
- 9. At least two arguments, if submitted, but no more than ten arguments for and two arguments, if submitted, but no more than ten arguments against the proposed increase in the budget. The arguments shall be in a form prescribed by the county school superintendent and each argument shall not exceed two hundred words. Arguments for the proposed increase in the budget shall be provided in writing and signed by the governing board. submitted, additional arguments in favor of the proposed increase in the budget shall be provided in writing and signed by those in favor. Arguments against the proposed increase in the budget shall be provided in writing and signed by those in opposition. The names of those persons other than the governing board or superintendent submitting written arguments shall not be included in the report without their specific permission, but shall be made available only upon request to the county school superintendent. The county school superintendent shall review all factual statements contained in the written arguments and correct any inaccurate statements of fact. The superintendent shall not review and correct any portion of the written arguments which are identified as statements of the author's opinion. The county school superintendent shall make the written arguments available to the public as provided in title 39, chapter 1, article 2. A deadline for submitting arguments to be included in the informational report shall be set by the county school superintendent.

- 3 -

- 10. A statement that the alternate budget shall be adopted by the governing board if the proposed budget is not adopted by the qualified electors of the school district.
- 11. The full cash value, the assessed valuation, THE FIRST YEAR TAX RATE FOR THE PROPOSED OVERRIDE and the estimated amount of the secondary property taxes if the proposed budget is adopted for each of the following:
- (a) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is the average assessed valuation of property classified as class three, as prescribed by section 42-12003 for the current year in the school district.
- (b) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is one-half of the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.
- (c) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is twice the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.
- (d) A business whose assessed valuation is the average of the assessed valuation of property classified as class one, as prescribed by section 42-12001, paragraphs 12 and 13 for the current year in the school district.
- 12. If the election is conducted pursuant to subsection L or M of this section, the following information:
- (a) An executive summary of the school district's most recent capital improvement plan submitted to the school facilities board.
- (b) A complete list of each proposed capital improvement that will be funded with the budget increase and a description of the proposed cost of each improvement, including a separate aggregation of capital improvements for administrative purposes as defined by the school facilities board.
- (c) The tax rate associated with each of the proposed capital improvements and the estimated cost of each capital improvement for the owner of a single family home that is valued at eighty thousand dollars.
- C. For the purpose of this section, the school district may use its staff, equipment, materials, buildings or other resources only to distribute the informational report at the school district office or at public hearings and to produce such information as required in subsection B of this section, provided that nothing in this subsection shall preclude school districts from holding or participating in any public hearings at which testimony is given by at least one person for the proposed increase and one person against the proposed increase. ANY WRITTEN INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE DISTRICT PERTAINING TO THE OVERRIDE ELECTION SHALL INCLUDE FINANCIAL INFORMATION SHOWING THE ESTIMATED FIRST YEAR TAX RATE FOR THE PROPOSED BUDGET OVERRIDE AMOUNT.
- D. IF ANY AMOUNT OF THE PROPOSED INCREASE WILL BE FUNDED BY A LEVY OF TAXES IN THE DISTRICT, THE ELECTION PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE HELD ON THE FIRST TUESDAY FOLLOWING THE FIRST MONDAY IN NOVEMBER AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-204, SUBSECTION B, PARAGRAPH 1, SUBDIVISION (d). IF THE PROPOSED INCREASE WILL BE FULLY FUNDED BY REVENUES FROM OTHER THAN A LEVY OF TAXES the elections prescribed in subsection A of

- 4 -

this section shall be held on $\frac{a}{a}$ ANY date prescribed by section 16-204. $\frac{a}{a}$ THE ELECTIONS shall be conducted as nearly as practicable in the manner prescribed in article 1 of this chapter, sections 15-422 through 15-424 and section 15-426, relating to special elections, except that:

- 1. The notices required pursuant to section 15-403 shall be posted not less than twenty-five days before the election.
- 2. Ballots shall be counted pursuant to title 16, chapter 4, article 10.
- E. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify his desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection $\frac{1}{2}$ Q of this section and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within this school district for the year for which adopted and for ____ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on an estimate of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, TO FUND the proposed increase in the school district's budget over that allowed by law would result in REQUIRE an estimated increase in the school district's tax rate of dollar per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate which will be levied to fund the school district's revenue control limit allowed by law.

- F. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues from other than a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain:
- 1. The amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget.
- 2. A statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection P=0 of this section.

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3. The following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by this school district with revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the year for which adopted and for _____ subsequent years and shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state.

- G. Except as provided in subsection H of this section, the maximum budget increase AMOUNT which may be requested and authorized OVER THE DURATION OF THE BUDGET INCREASE as provided in subsection E or F of this section or the combination of subsections E and F of this section is ten per cent of the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-947, subsection A for the budget year OF THE ELECTION.
- H. Special budget override provisions for school districts with a student count of less than one hundred fifty-four in kindergarten programs and grades one through eight or with a student count of less than one hundred seventy-six in grades nine through twelve are as follows:
- 1. The maximum budget increase that may be requested and authorized as provided in subsections E and F of this section is the greater of the amount prescribed in subsection G of this section or a limit computed as follows:
- (a) For common or unified districts with a student count of less than one hundred fifty-four in kindergarten programs and grades one through eight, the limit computed as prescribed in item (i) or (ii) of this subdivision, whichever is appropriate:

25 (i) 26 Small School Support Level Weight Phase Down 27 Student Student for Small Isolated Reduction Base Level Factor 28 Count Limit School Districts <u>Count</u> 29 125 x 1.358 + (0.0005 x 30 (500 - Student Count)) 31 Small Isolated 32 Phase Down Phase Down School District 33 Reduction Factor Elementary Limit Base 34 \$150,000 - <u>\$</u> 35 (ii) Small School Support Level Weight 36 Phase Down 37 Student for Small Reduction Student Count Limit 38 Count School Districts Base Level Factor 39 125 x 1.278 + (0.0003 x x <u>\$</u> = <u>\$</u> 40 (500 - Student Count)) 41 Small 42 Phase Down Phase Down School District 43 <u>Base</u> <u>Reduction Factor</u> Elementary Limit 44 \$150,000 - <u>\$</u>

- 6 -

(b) For unified or union high school districts with a student count of less than one hundred seventy-six in grades nine through twelve, the limit computed as prescribed in item (i) or (ii) of this subdivision, whichever is appropriate:

5 (i) 7 Student

(ii)

	Small School	Support Level Weight			Phase Down
Student	Student	for Small Isolated			Reduction
<u>Count</u>	<u>Count Limit</u>	School Districts		Base Level	<u>Factor</u>
	- <u>100</u> x	1.468 + (0.0005 x)	Χ	<u>\$</u> =	\$
		(500 - Student Count)))		
				Small Isolat	ed
				0	- u

Phase Down Phase Down District

Base Reduction Factor Secondary Limit

\$350,000 - \$ = \$

	Small School	Support Level Weight		Phase Down
Student	Student	for Small		Reduction
<u>Count</u>	<u>Count Limit</u>	<u>School Districts</u>	Base Level	<u>Factor</u>
	- <u>100</u> >	(1.398 + (0.0004 x))	x <u>\$</u> =	= \$
		(500 - Student Count))	

Phase Down Phase Down School District

Base Reduction Factor Secondary Limit

\$350,000 - \$ = \$

- (c) If both subdivisions (a) and (b) of this paragraph apply to a unified school district, its limit for the purposes of this paragraph is the combination of its elementary limit and its secondary limit.
- (d) If only subdivision (a) or (b) of this paragraph applies to a unified school district, the district's limit for the purposes of this paragraph is the sum of the limit computed as provided in subdivision (a) or (b) of this paragraph plus ten per cent of the revenue control limit attributable to those grade levels that do not meet the eligibility requirements of this subsection. If a school district budgets monies outside the revenue control limit pursuant to section 15-949, subsection E, the district's limit for the purposes of this paragraph is only the ten per cent of the revenue control limit attributable to those grade levels that are not included under section 15-949, subsection E. For the purposes of this subdivision, the revenue control limit is separated into elementary and secondary components based on the weighted student count as provided in section 15-971, subsection B, paragraph 2, subdivision (a).
- 2. If a school district utilizes the provisions of this subsection to request an override of more than one year, the ballot shall include an estimate of the amount of the proposed increase in the future years in place of the statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a

- 7 -

percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, as prescribed in subsections E and F of this section.

- 3. Notwithstanding subsection P-Q of this section, the maximum period of an override authorized pursuant to this subsection is five years.
- 4. Subsection $\stackrel{\textbf{P}}{}$ Q, paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section do not apply to overrides authorized pursuant to this subsection.
- I. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-482 and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection \P R of this section, and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within this school district for the year for which adopted and for _____ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on an estimate of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, the portion of TO FUND the proposed increase in the school district's budget over that allowed by law which will be funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within this school district would result in REQUIRE an estimated increase in the school district's dollar per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate that will be levied to fund the school district's revenue control limit allowed by law.

J. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-482 and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection \mathbb{Q} — \mathbb{R} of this section and the following statement:

- 8 -

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by this school district with revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the year for which adopted and for _____ subsequent years and shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state.

K. The maximum budget increase AMOUNT that may be requested and authorized OVER THE DURATION OF THE BUDGET INCREASE as provided in subsection I or J of this section, or a combination of both of these subsections, is five per cent of the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-947, subsection A for the budget year OF THE ELECTION. For a unified school district, a common school district not within a high school district or a common school district within a high school district that offers instruction in high school subjects as provided in section 15-447, five per cent of the revenue control limit means five per cent of the revenue control limit attributable to the weighted student count in preschool programs for children with disabilities, kindergarten programs and grades one through eight as provided in section 15-971, subsection B.

L. If the election is to exceed the capital outlay revenue limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. An election held pursuant to this subsection shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within this school district for the year in which adopted and for _____ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on an estimate of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, TO FUND the proposed increase in the school district's budget over that allowed by law would result in REQUIRE an estimated increase in the school district's tax rate of ___ dollar per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate which will be levied to fund the school district's capital outlay revenue limit allowed by law.

M. If the election is to exceed the capital outlay revenue limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues from other than a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase,

- 9 -

no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. An election held pursuant to this subsection shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by this school district with revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the year in which adopted and for _____ subsequent years and shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state.

- N. If the election is to exceed a combination of the revenue control limit as provided in subsection E or F of this section, the revenue control limit as provided in subsection I or J of this section or the capital outlay revenue limit as provided in subsection L or M of this section, the ballot shall be prepared so that the voters may vote on each proposed increase separately and shall contain statements required in the same manner as if each proposed increase were submitted separately.
- O. THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT MAY BE REQUESTED AND AUTHORIZED FOR THE DURATION OF AN INCREASE AS PROVIDED BY SUBSECTION L OR M OF THIS SECTION IS ONE HUNDRED PER CENT OF THE DISTRICT'S CAPITAL OUTLAY REVENUE LIMIT FOR THE BUDGET YEAR OF THE ELECTION.
- O. P. If the election provides for a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, at least thirty days prior to the election, the department of revenue shall provide the school district governing board and the county school superintendent with an estimate of the school district's assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes for the ensuing fiscal year. The governing board and the county school superintendent shall use this estimate to translate the amount of the proposed dollar increase in the budget of the school district over that allowed by law into a tax rate figure.
- P. Q. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the revenue control limit as provided in subsection E or F of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. Any additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board may, however, levy on the assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes of the property in the school district the additional increase if adopted under subsection E of this section for the period of one year, two years or five through seven years as authorized. If an additional increase is approved as provided in subsection F of this section, the school district governing board may only use revenues derived from the school district's prior year's maintenance and operation fund ending cash balance to fund the additional increase. If a budget increase was previously authorized and will be in effect for the budget year or budget

- 10 -

year and subsequent years, as provided in subsection E or F of this section, the governing board may request a new budget increase as provided in the same subsection under which the prior budget increase was adopted which shall not exceed the maximum amount permitted under subsection G of this section. If the voters in the school district authorize the new budget increase amount, the existing budget increase no longer is in effect. If the voters in the school district do not authorize the budget increase amount, the existing budget increase remains in effect for the time period for which it was authorized. The maximum additional increase authorized as provided in subsection E or F of this section and the additional increase which is included in the aggregate budget limit is based on a percentage of a school district's revenue control limit in future years, if the budget increase is authorized for more than one year. If the additional increase:

- 1. Is for two years, the proposed increase in the second year is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase.
- 2. Is for five years or more, the proposed increase is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase in the following years of the proposed increase, except that in the next to last year it is two-thirds of the initial proposed percentage increase and it is one-third of the initial proposed percentage increase in the last year of the proposed increase.
- Q. R. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the revenue control limit as provided in subsection I or J of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. Any additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board, however, may levy on the assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes of the property in the school district the additional increase if adopted under subsection I of this section for the period of one year, two years or five through seven years as authorized. If an additional increase is approved as provided in subsection J of this section, the increase may only be budgeted and expended if sufficient monies are available in the maintenance and operation fund of the school district. If a budget increase was previously authorized and will be in effect for the budget year or budget year and subsequent years, as provided in subsection I or J of this section, the governing board may request a new budget increase as provided in the same subsection under which the prior budget increase was adopted that does not exceed the maximum amount permitted under subsection K of this section. If the voters in the school district authorize the new budget increase amount, the existing budget increase no longer is in effect. If the voters in the school district do not authorize the budget increase amount, the existing budget increase remains in effect for the time period for which it was authorized. The maximum additional increase authorized as provided in subsection I or J of this section and the additional increase that is included in the aggregate budget limit is based on a percentage of a

- 11 -

school district's revenue control limit in future years, if the budget increase is authorized for more than one year. If the additional increase:

- 1. Is for two years, the proposed increase in the second year is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase.
- 2. Is for five years or more, the proposed increase is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase in the following years of the proposed increase, except that in the next to last year it is two-thirds of the initial proposed percentage increase and it is one-third of the initial proposed percentage increase in the last year of the proposed increase.
- R. S. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit as provided in subsection L of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. The additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board may, however, levy on the assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes of the property in the school district the additional increase for the period authorized but not to exceed ten years. For overrides approved by a vote of the qualified electors of the school district at an election held from and after October 31, 1998, the period of the additional increase prescribed in this subsection shall not exceed seven years for any capital override election.
- S. T. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit as provided in subsection M of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. The additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board may only use revenues derived from the school district's prior year's maintenance and operation fund ending cash balance and capital outlay fund ending cash balance to fund the additional increase for the period authorized but not to exceed ten years. For overrides approved by a vote of the qualified electors of the school district at an election held from and after October 31, 1998, the period of the additional increase prescribed in this subsection shall not exceed seven years for any capital override election.
- T. U. In addition to subsections P- Q and S- T of this section, from the maintenance and operation fund and capital outlay fund ending cash balances, the school district governing board shall first use any available revenues to reduce its primary tax rate to zero and shall use any remaining revenues to fund the additional increase authorized as provided in subsections F and M of this section.
- U. V. If the voters in a school district disapprove the proposed budget, the alternate budget which, except for any budget increase authorized by a prior election, does not include an increase in the budget in excess of the amount provided in section 15-905 shall be adopted by the governing board as provided in section 15-905.

- 12 -

orall V. W. The governing board may request that any override election be cancelled if any change in chapter 9 of this title changes the amount of the aggregate budget limit as provided in section 15-905. The request to cancel the override election shall be made to the county school superintendent at least ten days prior to the date of the scheduled override election.

 $box{W.}$ X. For any election conducted pursuant to subsection L or M of this section:

1. The ballot shall include the following statement in addition to any other statement required by this section:

The capital improvements that are proposed to be funded through this override election are to exceed the state standards and are in addition to monies provided by the state.

school district is proposing to increase its
budget by \$ to fund capital improvements over and
above those funded by the state. Under the students first
capital funding system, school district is entitled to
state monies for building renewal, new construction and
renovation of school buildings in accordance with state law.

- 2. The ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice.
- 3. At least eighty-five days before the election, the school district shall submit proposed ballot language to the director of the Arizona legislative council. The director of the Arizona legislative council shall review the proposed ballot language to determine whether the proposed ballot language complies with this section. If the director of the Arizona legislative council determines that the proposed ballot language does not comply with this section, the director, within ten calendar days of the receipt of the proposed ballot language, shall notify the school district of the director's objections and the school district shall resubmit revised ballot language to the director for approval.
- X. Y. If the voters approve the budget increase pursuant to subsection L or M of this section, the school district shall not use the override proceeds for any purposes other than the proposed capital improvements listed in the publicity pamphlet, except that up to ten per cent of the override proceeds may be used for general capital expenses, including cost overruns of proposed capital improvements.
- Y. Z. Each school district that currently increases its budget pursuant to subsection L or M of this section is required to hold a public meeting each year between September 1 and October 31 at which an update of the progress of capital improvements financed through the override is discussed and at which the public is permitted an opportunity to comment. At a minimum, the update shall include a comparison of the current status and the original projections on the construction of capital improvements, the costs of capital improvements and the costs of capital improvements in

- 13 -

progress or completed since the prior meeting and the future capital plans of the school district. The school district shall include in the public meeting a discussion of the school district's use of state capital aid and voter-approved bonding in funding capital improvements, if any.

7. AA. If a budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit was previously adopted by the voters in a school district and will be in effect for the budget year or budget year and subsequent years, as provided in subsection L or M of this section, the governing board may request an additional budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit. If the voters in a school district authorize the additional budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit, the existing capital outlay revenue limit budget increase remains in effect.

Sec. 3. Repeal

Section 15-481, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 354, section 12, is repealed.

Sec. 4. Section 42-17001, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-17001. Definitions

In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1. "Commission" means the property tax oversight commission established by section 42-17002.
- 2. "Political subdivision" means a county, charter county, city, charter city, town or community college district.
 - 3. "SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT" MEANS:
- (a) A COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO TITLE 48, CHAPTER 21. ARTICLE 1.
- (b) A COUNTY FREE LIBRARY DISTRICT ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO TITLE 48, CHAPTER 24.
- (c) A COUNTY JAIL DISTRICT ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO TITLE 48, CHAPTER 25.
- (d) A SPECIAL HEALTH CARE DISTRICT ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO TITLE 48, CHAPTER 31.
- (e) A PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES DISTRICT ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO TITLE 48, CHAPTER 33.
- Sec. 5. Section 42-17003, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-17003. Duties

- A. The commission shall:
- 1. Establish procedures for deriving the information required by sections 15-905.01, 15-1461.01 and 42-17107 and article 2 of this chapter.
- 2. Review the primary property tax levy of each political subdivision to determine violations of sections 15-905.01, 15-1461.01 and 42-17107 and article 2 of this chapter.

- 14 -

- 3. REVIEW THE SECONDARY PROPERTY TAX LEVY OF EACH SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT TO DETERMINE VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 48-3620, 48-3903, 48-4023, 48-5565 AND 48-5805.
- 3. 4. Review the reports made by the department concerning valuation accuracy.
- 4.5. Hold hearings to determine the adequacy of compliance with articles 2 and 3 of this chapter.
- $\frac{5.}{6.}$ 6. Upon the request of a county, city, town or community college district, hold hearings as prescribed in section 42-17004 regarding the calculation of the maximum allowable primary property tax levy limits prescribed in section 42-17051, subsection A.
- B. If the commission determines that a political subdivision has violated section 15-905.01, 15-1461.01 or 42-17107 or article 2 of this chapter, OR THAT A SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT HAS VIOLATED SECTION 48-3620, 48-3903, 48-4023, 48-5565 OR 48-5805, then on or before September 15 the commission shall notify the political subdivision OR DISTRICT, and the county board of supervisors, in writing, of:
 - 1. The nature of the violation.
 - 2. The necessary adjustment to:
- (a) The primary property tax levy and tax rate to comply with section 15-905.01, 15-1461.01 or 42-17107 or article 2 of this chapter.
- (b) THE SECONDARY PROPERTY TAX LEVY AND TAX RATE TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 48-3620, 48-3903, 48-4023, 48-5565 OR 48-5805.
- Sec. 6. Section 42-17004, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-17004. Hearing and appeals of commission findings

- A. If the commission notifies a political subdivision of a violation of section 15-905.01, 15-1461.01 or 42-17107 or article 2 of this chapter, OR NOTIFIES A SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT OF A VIOLATION OF SECTION 48-3620, 48-3903, 48-4023, 48-5565 OR 48-5805, and the political subdivision OR DISTRICT disputes the commission's findings, then on or before October 1 the political subdivision OR DISTRICT may request a hearing before the commission to attempt to resolve the dispute.
- B. A governing board BODY of a county, city, town, or community college district OR SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT may request a hearing before the commission regarding the calculation of the maximum allowable primary OR SECONDARY property tax levy limits prescribed in section 42-17051, 48-3620, 48-3903, 48-4023, 48-5565 OR 48-5805. The commission may resolve any disputes.
- C. The commission shall conduct the hearing as prescribed in title 41, chapter 6, article $10. \,$
- D. If the dispute is resolved at the hearing, the commission shall immediately notify the county board of supervisors of the proper primary \mbox{OR} SECONDARY tax levy and tax rate.

- 15 -

- E. If a political subdivision OR SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT continues to dispute the commission's findings after the hearing under this section, the political subdivision OR DISTRICT may:
- 1. Appeal the matter to tax court within thirty days after the commission renders the decision.
- 2. Levy primary OR SECONDARY property taxes in the amount that the political subdivision OR DISTRICT considers to be proper, pending the outcome of the appeal.
- Sec. 7. Section 42-17005, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-17005. Adjustments to levy

- A. If a governing body of a political subdivision OR A SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT receives written notice of a violation of its allowable levy limit or truth in taxation limit under section 42-17003, and has not appealed the commission's decision pursuant to section 42-17004, the governing body shall correct its primary property tax levy and tax rate to properly reflect the allowable levy for the current year. The county board of supervisors shall make the necessary adjustments to the political subdivision's OR DISTRICT'S primary property tax levy and tax rate to ensure that the corrected information is contained in the assessment and tax roll that is transmitted to the county treasurer pursuant to section 42-18003. If the governing body receives the notice after it is too late to correct the levy in the current year, the difference between the amount actually levied and the allowable primary property tax levy shall be set aside in a special fund and used to reduce the primary property taxes levied in the following year.
- B. If, after a hearing under section 42-17004, the commission determines that errors were made in the calculation of the maximum allowable primary property tax levy limit pursuant to section 42-17051, subsection A, OR SECONDARY PROPERTY TAX LEVY LIMIT PURSUANT TO SECTION 48-3620, 48-3903, 48-4023, 48-5565 OR 48-5805, the commission shall have five days to notify the governing board of a BODY OF THE county, city, town, or community college district OR SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT of the corrected levy limit. The commission shall also notify the county board of supervisors within five days. The corrected maximum allowable primary property tax levy shall be used in section 42-17051, subsection A, paragraph 1 in determining the following year's levy limit. THE CORRECTED MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SECONDARY PROPERTY TAX LEVY SHALL BE USED IN SECTION 48-3620, 48-3903, 48-4023, 48-5565 OR 48-5805 IN DETERMINING THE FOLLOWING YEAR'S LEVY LIMIT.
- C. If, after a hearing under section 42-17004, it is impossible for the board of supervisors to correct a property tax levy in the current year, the political subdivision OR SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT shall hold the difference between the amount the political subdivision OR DISTRICT actually levied and the allowable primary property tax levy prescribed by the commission in a separate fund to be used to reduce the primary property taxes levied by the political subdivision OR DISTRICT in the following year.

- 16 -

- D. If the commission discovers that it has made an error in computing the levy limit after September 15, it shall notify the political subdivision's OR SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT'S governing body about the error. The error shall be corrected as prescribed in subsection A of this section. If the error results in the maximum allowable primary property tax levy being raised: —
- 1. The corrected maximum allowable primary property tax levy shall be used in section 42-17051, subsection A, paragraph 1 in determining the following year's levy limit.
- 2. THE CORRECTED MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SECONDARY PROPERTY TAX LEVY SHALL BE USED FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 48-3620, 48-3903, 48-4023, 48-5565 OR 48-5805 IN DETERMINING THE FOLLOWING YEAR'S LEVY LIMIT.
- E. If, on appeal under section 42-17004, subsection E, the ruling of the court provides for a primary property tax levy in an amount that is less than the amount levied by the political subdivision OR SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT, the political subdivision OR DISTRICT shall hold the difference between the amounts in a separate fund to be used to reduce the primary property taxes levied by the political subdivision OR DISTRICT in the following year.
 - Sec. 8. Section 48-3620, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 48-3620. Certification and levy of taxes; limitation
- A. The district shall annually, not less than fifteen days before the first day of the month in which the county board of supervisors is required by law to levy county taxes, SHALL ANNUALLY certify to the board of supervisors:
- 1. The amount of taxes to be levied in each year on the taxable real property in the district as it considers necessary or appropriate to pay the expenses of administering the district and maintaining and operating the district's flood control system, to carry out its regulatory functions and to carry out any of the objects and purposes of this article of common benefit to the district. The maintenance and operation tax proceeds not used for current expenses of maintenance and operation may either be paid into a reserve to be accumulated for such purpose or may be used for extending, improving and constructing the flood control system, including acquiring rights-of-way.
- 2. The amount of taxes to be levied in each year on all taxable real property in each zone or in any of the zones into which the district has been divided, according to the benefits derived or to be derived by the respective zones, to pay the cost and expenses of carrying out any of the objects or purposes of this article of special benefit to the respective zones, including acquiring, constructing, maintaining, operating, extending, repairing or otherwise improving any or all flood control works or improvements in the respective zones and including acquiring rights-of-way. No revenues derived from any of the several zones from the taxes levied under this section may be expended for acquiring, constructing, maintaining,

- 17 -

operating, extending, repairing or otherwise improving any works or improvements located in any other zone, except under section 48-3620.01.

- 3. The amount of secondary property taxes necessary to be levied to pay the principal and interest falling due during the ensuing year on, or to provide a sinking fund for, any bonds issued pursuant to section 48-3619.
- B. The taxes collected pursuant to this section shall be paid to the district treasurer and used solely for the purpose for which they were levied.
- C. The board of supervisors at the time of levying general county taxes shall levy and cause to be collected in the manner prescribed by law for county taxes a property tax or taxes on the taxable real property in the district, zone or zones sufficient to provide the amounts set forth in subsection A of this section.
- D. If the district fails to certify to the board of supervisors any of the amounts of taxes necessary to be levied as required by this section, the board of supervisors shall ascertain the amount which should have been certified and shall levy the tax sufficient to produce such amount.
- E. BEGINNING IN TAX YEAR 2007, THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF A LEVY UNDER SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2 OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF THE LEVY IN TAX YEAR 2006, ADJUSTED ANNUALLY BY A PERCENTAGE EQUAL TO THE RATE OF CHANGE IN THE LEVY LIMIT BETWEEN THE CURRENT YEAR AND THE PRECEDING YEAR FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE DISTRICT IS LOCATED AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO SECTION 42-17051. THE LIMITATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE INCREASED EACH YEAR TO THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE LIMIT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE DISTRICT ACTUALLY LEVIES THAT AMOUNT.
- E. F. If a district is located in a county having a population of less than six hundred thousand persons according to the most recent United States decennial census, beginning with the 1993 tax year AND IN ADDITION TO THE LIMITATION PRESCRIBED BY SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION, the aggregate taxes levied in any year under this article by the district for the purposes listed in subsection A, paragraph 1 of this section shall not exceed twenty per cent of the county primary property tax rate exclusive of the state equalization assistance property tax rate or fifty cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation, whichever is greater. The aggregate taxes levied for any year under this article on property in a zone for the purposes listed in subsection A, paragraph 2 of this section in a district located in a county having a population of less than six hundred thousand persons according to the most recent United States decennial census, if added to the aggregate taxes, if any, levied for the purposes listed in subsection A, paragraph 1 of this section, shall not exceed twenty per cent of the county primary property tax rate exclusive of the state equalization assistance property tax rate or fifty cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation, whichever is greater. The taxes levied under this article in a district located in a county having a population of less than six hundred thousand persons according to the most recent United States decennial census

- 18 -

may exceed the limits prescribed by this subsection if approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the district voting in a regular general election held pursuant to title 16, chapter 2, article 2 or at a special election held pursuant to title 16, chapter 2, article 3. The ballot for the election shall specifically state the proposed rate and the fiscal year or years in which the excess tax levies are proposed to be assessed.

Sec. 9. Section 48-3903, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 48-3903. Tax levies; limitation

- A. The board of directors, after a county free library is established, shall annually levy in the same manner and at the same time as other county secondary property taxes are levied a county free library district tax sufficient to establish the district and to insure ENSURE the payment of salaries, maintenance and upkeep and other necessary expenses of the county free library district. The tax shall be levied and collected upon all property in the county and upon all property within incorporated cities and towns in the county.
- B. BEGINNING IN TAX YEAR 2007, THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF A LEVY UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF THE LEVY IN TAX YEAR 2006, ADJUSTED ANNUALLY BY A PERCENTAGE EQUAL TO THE RATE OF CHANGE IN THE LEVY LIMIT BETWEEN THE CURRENT YEAR AND THE PRECEDING YEAR FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE DISTRICT IS LOCATED AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO SECTION 42-17051. THE LIMITATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE INCREASED EACH YEAR TO THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE LIMIT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE DISTRICT ACTUALLY LEVIES THAT AMOUNT.
- Sec. 10. Section 48-4023, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

48-4023. Property tax levy

- A. If a majority of the qualified electors voting at an election held pursuant to section 48-4021 approves APPROVE a county jail district ad valorem property tax, on or before the third Monday in August each year the district shall certify to the county board of supervisors the amount of taxes to be levied for the taxable year on the taxable property in the district which, together with unexpended balances carried forward from the previous fiscal year and revenues from all other sources, is necessary to pay the maintenance and operation expenses of the district in carrying out the objects and purposes of this chapter.
- B. The board of supervisors shall levy a secondary property tax on the taxable property in the district, at the same time and in the same manner as county taxes are levied, sufficient to provide the amount certified under subsection A of this section, but the tax rate is limited to, and shall not exceed in any event, THE LESSER OF:
- ${\tt 1.}$ Twenty cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation, except as provided in subsection D of this section.

- 19 -

- 2. BEGINNING IN TAX YEAR 2007, THE AMOUNT OF THE LEVY IN TAX YEAR 2006, ADJUSTED ANNUALLY BY A PERCENTAGE EQUAL TO THE RATE OF CHANGE IN THE LEVY LIMIT BETWEEN THE CURRENT YEAR AND THE PRECEDING YEAR FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE DISTRICT IS LOCATED AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO SECTION 42-17051. THE LIMITATION UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE INCREASED EACH YEAR TO THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE LIMIT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE DISTRICT ACTUALLY LEVIES THAT AMOUNT.
- C. The tax revenues collected pursuant to this section shall be paid to the district treasurer and deposited in the county jail district general fund and used solely for the purposes for which they were collected.
- $fuller{c.}$ D. The tax shall be levied on all of the taxable property in the district.
- D. E. Notwithstanding subsection B of this section, for tax years 2006, 2007 and 2008, the district may certify and the board of supervisors shall levy a secondary property tax on the taxable property in the district in an amount equal to the amount levied in tax year 2005.
- Sec. 11. Section 48-5805, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

48-5805. Transaction privilege tax; property tax

- A. The board of directors of the district by resolution may levy, and if levied, the department of revenue shall collect, a transaction privilege tax pursuant to this section to be used and spent for the purposes described in section 48-5804. The board shall set the rate of the tax at not more than two per cent of the tax rate that applies to each business in the district that is subject to taxation under title 42, chapter 5, article 1. The board shall levy the tax on each person engaging in the district in a business taxed under title 42, chapter 5, article 1.
- B. Each month the state treasurer shall remit to the district treasurer the net revenues collected under subsection A of this section during the second preceding month. The district treasurer shall deposit the monies in the public health services district's accounts and shall account for all expenditures.
- C. In lieu of a transaction privilege tax pursuant to subsection A of this section, the board by resolution may levy in the same manner and at the same time as other county secondary property taxes are levied a public health services district tax. The tax shall not exceed THE LESSER OF:
- 1. Twenty-five cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation and shall be levied on all property in the county and on all property within incorporated cities and towns in the county.
- 2. BEGINNING IN TAX YEAR 2007, THE AMOUNT OF THE LEVY IN TAX YEAR 2006, ADJUSTED ANNUALLY BY A PERCENTAGE EQUAL TO THE RATE OF CHANGE IN THE LEVY LIMIT BETWEEN THE CURRENT YEAR AND THE PRECEDING YEAR FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE DISTRICT IS LOCATED AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO SECTION 42-17051. THE LIMITATION UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE INCREASED EACH YEAR TO THE

- 20 -

6 7 MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE LIMIT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE DISTRICT ACTUALLY LEVIES THAT AMOUNT.

 $\,$ D. The district shall deposit all monies collected pursuant to this subsection in a separate account and shall account for all expenditures.

Sec. 12. Application: retroactivity

Section 15-481, subsections G, K and O, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act, apply retroactively to override authority approved by the qualified electors of school districts from and after June 30, 2007.

- 21 -